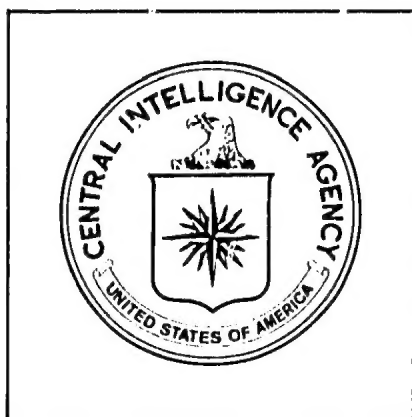


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Western Europe [REDACTED] International Organizations No. 0114-75

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STAFF NOTES:

Western Europe

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International Organizations

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No. 0114-75

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WESTERN EUROPE — [REDACTED] — INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

This publication is prepared for regional specialists in the Washington community by the Western Europe Division, Office of Current Intelligence, with occasional contributions from other offices within the Directorate of Intelligence. Comments and queries are welcome. They should be directed to the authors of the individual articles.

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[REDACTED]
Phone: 143-5135Backstage Moves in Spain to Urge Franco's
Resignation Reported

Reports are emanating from Madrid that Prince Juan Carlos, Franco's chosen successor as chief of state, is considering the possibility of asking the old man to step down. Discussion of the subject may stem more from talks among free-wheeling aides about possible action than from actual instructions from Juan Carlos to institute such talks in his name. The prince is cautious by nature and should be aware of the risks involved in exploring the subject.

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[REDACTED] informed an aide to the Spanish Ambassador to London, Manuel Fraga Iribarne, that the prince would like Fraga, during his visit to Spain next week, to sound out several senior Spanish officers on whether they would support Juan Carlos were he to begin to apply pressure on Franco to step down.

The source also said that the Prince wishes to discuss discreetly with Fraga plans to appoint him prime minister once Juan Carlos assumes power. Since this information comes from a Fraga aide, it appears self-serving. Fraga is an ambitious, politically moderate, former minister of information, who supports some liberalization of the present regime. He is considering forming a political association under terms of the new decree making such associations legal.

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[REDACTED] in Madrid agree that this type of conversation among aides could be going on. But they doubt that Juan Carlos is committed to the plan, that senior military officers would lend their support to a move to replace Franco now, and that Juan Carlos would want to replace Prime Minister Arias.

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[REDACTED] in Madrid have heard an even more sensational report that Juan Carlos has confirmed that he is talking with Franco's family about

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resignation, and that the talks are deadlocked over terms of financial protection and amnesty to be accorded the family when Franco resigns. This report said Juan Carlos would keep Arias as prime minister. Negotiations between Juan Carlos and Franco's family at this point would appear unlikely in light of the family's opposition to Juan Carlos' temporary assumption of power during Franco's illness last summer.

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Arias himself said that 4 of the 12 regional military commanders in Spain had told him separately that they thought Franco should retire. This does not mean, however, that they would go so far as to urge him to retire.

These reports may stem from political activity following the issuance of the decree law permitting the formation of political associations. The reports may also reflect the disappointment in some circles over Franco's resumption of the powers of chief of state in September.

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[REDACTED]
Phone: 143-7989Evacuation of Turkish Cypriots Causes
Anti-British Demonstrations

The situation in the British sovereign base area in southern Cyprus deteriorated on Friday as British officials prepared for the evacuation to Turkey on Saturday of Turkish Cypriot refugees. Tensions are running high, and there is a potential for large scale violence.

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[REDACTED] a group of about 500 Greek Cypriot demonstrators clashed with British security personnel at the edge of the base early on Friday, the result being injuries on both sides and the death of at least one Greek Cypriot. Some of the demonstrators succeeded in breaking through the base's outer perimeter.

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Earlier, [REDACTED] reported that a group of Greek Cypriots had cut the main road separating the Turkish Cypriot refugees in the western part of the base from the evacuation airfield in the southeast. Anti-British demonstrations held Thursday and Friday in all major Greek Cypriot towns were orderly, but two British properties in Limassol were bombed and several vehicles were burned. More demonstrations are planned for this weekend. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]
Phone: 143-5205Personnel Problems at the CCD

Problems are developing over UN Secretary General Waldheim's choice of his representative to the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament (CCD). An earlier informal agreement among the major concerned countries to replace Waldheim's present representative--who is retiring--with another Finnish national is in danger of unraveling under pressure from India to nominate its own candidate for the post. The Soviets have now indicated that they will "agree" to the Indian appointment.

The 31-nation disarmament committee meets under the co-chairmanship of the US and USSR and, while associated with the UN system, is not subordinate to any UN organ. The Secretary General has, however, with the concurrence of the co-chairmen, traditionally been permitted to send a representative to attend the Geneva meetings. While this special status for the Secretary General's representative has served to maintain a UN-CCD dialogue on disarmament matters, it has also embodied the commitment of the co-chairmen to uphold the independence of the disarmament committee vis-a-vis the General Assembly and the Secretary General.

The irony of the appointment of an Indian national to this relatively prominent international disarmament position will not be lost on other members of the CCD. India used last year's sessions of the CCD to defend its nuclear explosion of May as a "peaceful" one, and New Delhi is unlikely to alter its policy now to take account of the concerns of the major powers about nuclear proliferation. (Confidential)

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